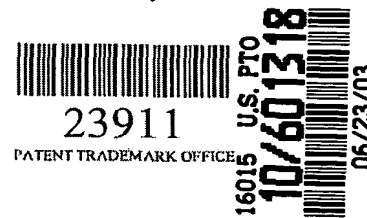


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June 23, 2003



PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: New U.S. Patent Appln.

Our Ref: 038724.52430US

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is a Continuation Application of pending PCT Application No. PCT/EP01/15127 filed on December 20, 2001 of:

Wolfgang DANZER

entitled: PROCESS GAS AND LASER MACHINING METHOD

Enclosed are:

1. Specification, including 39 claims (11 pages).
2. Priority is being claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119 and 37 C.F.R. §1.55 based on Priority Document DE 100 64 327.2, filed in Germany on December 22, 2000 and Priority Document DE 100 64 325.6, filed in Germany on December 22, 2000.
3. Benefit is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. §120 of pending PCT Application No. PCT/EP01/15127 filed on December 20, 2001.
4. The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

Basic Fee						\$375/750	=	\$750.00
Total Claims	<u>39</u>	-	20	=	<u>19</u>	x	\$9/18	= \$342.00
Independent Claims	<u>3</u>	-	3	=	<u>0</u>	x	\$42/84	= \$ -0-
Multiple Dependent Claim Presented							\$140/280	= \$
Total Filing Fee								<u>\$1,092.00</u>

The filing fee is being deferred.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Donald D. Evenson", is written over a horizontal line.

Donald D. Evenson
Reg. No. 26,160

DDE:jr